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# News

Office of Macomb County Executive  
Mark A. Hackel



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## For Immediate Release

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### **Executive Drive renovations spur economic development in Macomb County**

Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel gathered with area business, local and state agency officials today to celebrate the grand re-opening of Executive Drive, a road in Harrison Township that runs parallel to I-94 and serves more than a dozen businesses.

"Executive Drive is a prime example of how the growth of private industry can spur strategic investment in our infrastructure," said Executive Hackel. "Working alongside Yanfeng (Automotive Interiors), our transportation service providers, economic developers and our community partners, we were able to modernize this key industrial roadway."

The promise to make improvements to the road resulted in an investment of \$56.6 million by China-based Yanfeng Automotive Interiors to occupy and renovate a vacant building. Investment is expected to create up to 519 new jobs over three years.

"Five years ago our journey started with 50 employees and now we've grown to more than 400," said David Wang, vice president and deputy general manager, North America for Yanfeng Automotive Interiors. "We'd like to thank Macomb County, MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation, the MEDC (Michigan Economic Development Corporation), the Macomb County Department of Roads and Harrison Township for their outstanding support on this project."

In 2015, the Michigan Department of Transportation awarded a Transportation Economic Development Fund grant of \$1,634,640 to rebuild Executive Drive in Harrison Township. The grant, matched by \$700,560 from the Macomb County Department of Roads, made way for a manufacturer to expand in Harrison Township while vastly improving the road for other businesses within an industrial park.

Executive Drive was constructed in 1973 but had very few improvements made to it over its 43-year history. By the time the road was evaluated for possible funding, it rated a one on a scale from one to 10. Work began on April 4, 2016 and included removal of the existing road and its base; replacement and installation of an enhanced drainage system to prevent flooding; installation of a continuous sidewalk, as well as drives to adjacent businesses and upgrades to fire hydrants and the municipal fire suppression system.

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